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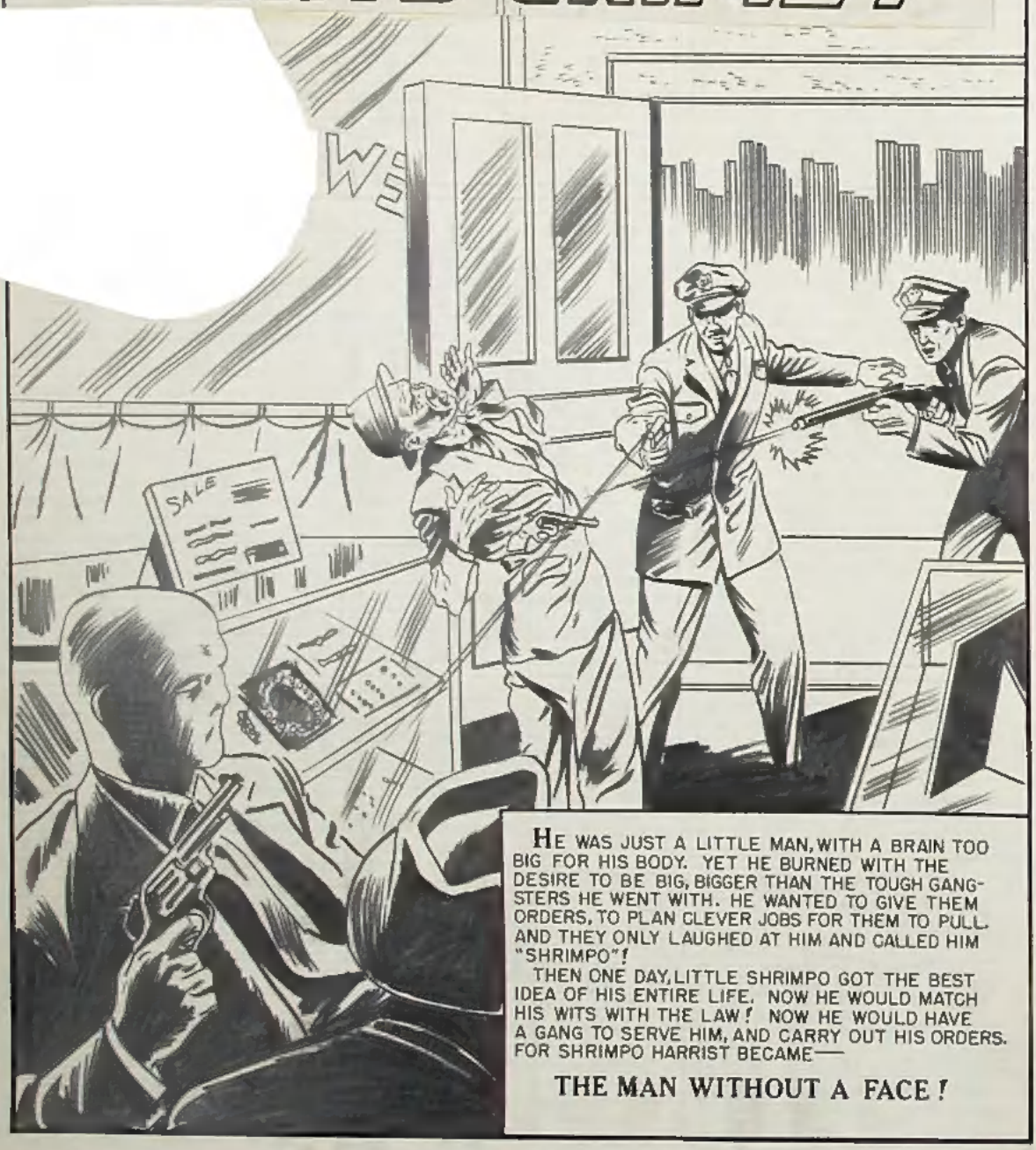
FC 1

MOON GIRL FIGHTS CRIME!



HE WAS JUST A LITTLE MAN, WITH A BRAIN TOO BIG FOR HIS BODY. YET HE BURNED WITH THE DESIRE TO BE BIG, BIGGER THAN THE TOUGH GANGSTERS HE WENT WITH. HE WANTED TO GIVE THEM ORDERS, TO PLAN CLEVER JOBS FOR THEM TO PULL. AND THEY ONLY LAUGHED AT HIM AND CALLED HIM "SHRIMPO"!

THEN ONE DAY, LITTLE SHRIMPO GOT THE BEST IDEA OF HIS ENTIRE LIFE. NOW HE WOULD MATCH HIS WITS WITH THE LAW! NOW HE WOULD HAVE A GANG TO SERVE HIM, AND CARRY OUT HIS ORDERS. FOR SHRIMPO HARRIST BECAME—

THE MAN WITHOUT A FACE!

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P1

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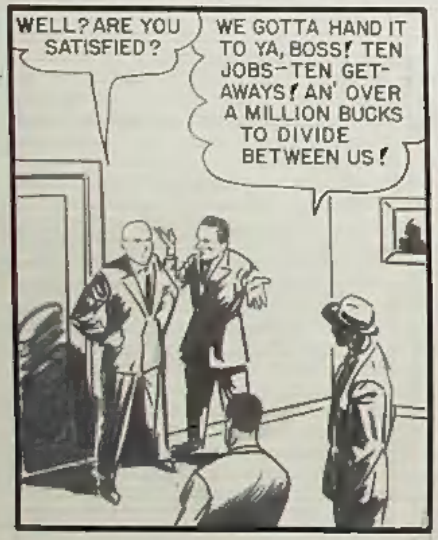

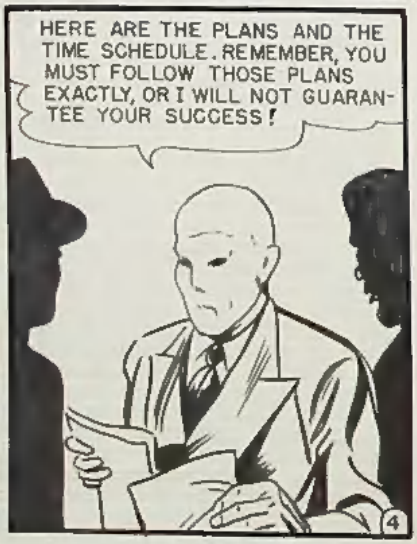

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FC 5

AT THAT MOMENT, IN A LUXURIOUS UPTOWN MANSION, CLAIRE LUNE AND SELENA WERE VISITING SOME FRIENDS AT DINNER...

WE'RE SO GLAD YOU COULD VISIT US, MISS LUNE.

I WANT YOU TO DROP IN AT OUR STORE TOMORROW AND SEE HOW OUR JEWEL EXPERT SPLITS A DIAMOND!

I'D LOVE TO! I KNOW THAT THEY MUST BE SO CAREFUL. THE SLIGHTEST ERROR WOULD RUIN AN EXPENSIVE GEM!

THE NEXT AFTERNOON, AT THE CARMODY'S JEWEL PALACE...

THE STONE MUST BE TAPPED AT EXACTLY THE RIGHT SPOT TO MAKE IT SPLIT FLAWLESSLY. THAT'S WHY WE SPEND MONTHS STUDYING IT, MAKING SURE WE ARE CORRECT IN OUR CALCULATIONS...

OUTSIDE...

THIS IS THE EXACT TIME WHEN THE LEAST NUMBER OF PEOPLE ARE INSIDE.

YEAH—AN' THE COPS ARE CHANGING SHIFTS.

ACE JEWELERS

JEWELERY

WE'RE AFTER THE DIAMONDS! WHERE ARE THEY?

TELL US QUIETLY...ONE FALSE MOVE OR A YELL... AN' WE SHOOT!

AS ONE OF THE CLERKS ANSWERED, HIS FOOT HIDDEN BELOW THE COUNTER, PRESSED THE ALARM...

THE ALARM BELL! SOMEONE'S ROBBING THE STORE! YOU GIRLS HIDE!

A ROBBERY! I-I HAVE TO HELP— AS *MOON GIRL!*

TING-A-LIIIINGG!

5

P5

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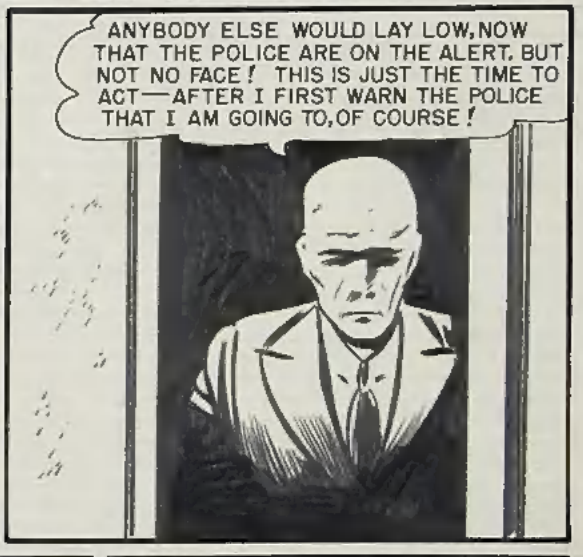

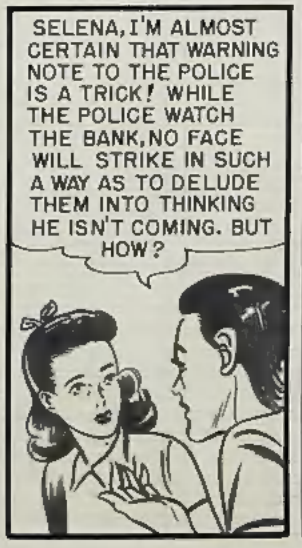

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THE OTHER HELICOPTER WAS HIGH ABOVE, HIDDEN BY THE CLOUDS. . .

THIS IS KENNEDY, CHIEF. THEY'RE RISIN' UP OFF THE ROOF NOW. WE'LL TRAIL THEM AND KEEP YOU INFORMED, SO THE PROWL CARS CAN FOLLOW!

HALF AN HOUR LATER—

BOSS, THEY CAUGHT US IN THE ACT!

THEY SHOT US UP PRETTY BAD, TOO.

YOU—YOU UTTER IDIOTS! DID YOU LET THEM FOLLOW YOU—*HERE?*

THAT'S JUST WHAT THEY DID DO, NO FACE!

GET YOUR HANDS UP!

IF YOU DON'T QUIT, WE SHOOT!

YOU'LL NEVER—TAKE ME!

I'D RATHER DIE THAN—

CRAAASSSHH!

YAAAAAGGGH!

SHRIMPO HARRIST—OR NO FACE, AS HE CALLED HIMSELF—ENDED HIS LIFE ON THE CITY PAVEMENTS, AFTER A FALL OF TWENTY-EIGHT STORIES. . .

BETTER NOT LOOK, *MOON GIRL.* HE ISN'T PRETTY. YOU SEE—

HE LANDED RIGHT ON HIS FACE AND NOW—HE VERY TRULY CAN BE CALLED. . . NO FACE!

SMASHING the DOPE RING!
A TRUE CRIME STORY by TREASURY AGENT
*THE NAMES AND PLACES IN THIS TRUE CRIME STORY HAVE BEEN FICTIONIZED TO PROTECT INNOCENT PEOPLE INVOLVED.
THEIR PLUNDER RAN INTO MILLIONS OF DOLLARS EVERY YEAR...THESE PHANTOM THIEVES AND KILLERS WHO DEALT THE PAIN AND MISERY OF THEIR HELPLESS "CLIENTS"! THEY WERE WELL-ORGANIZED, THESE DEALERS IN DEADLY OPIUM AND HEROIN...THEY SNEERED AT THE LAW, WHICH HAD NEVER SUCCEEDED IN TRACKING THEM DOWN. AT LEAST NOT UNTIL KIRK CRANE, CELEBRATED PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR, STAKED HIS LIFE IN HIS STRUGGLE AGAINST....
"THE DEATH'S HEAD RING!"

THIS IS WHAT IT WAS ALL ABOUT...THIS *DEATH'S HEAD!* KINDA CREEPY-LOOKING, ISN'T IT? BUT IT'S JUST CHILD'S PLAY COMPARED TO THE VICIOUS RING IT REPRESENTS... AMERICA'S *NARCOTIC RING!*
"IT ALL STARTED TWO MONTHS AGO, WHEN THE T-MEN ASKED ME TO DROP INTO GRAND CITY ON THE WEST COAST...TO HAVE A LITTLE LOOK-SEE..."
MIGHT AS WELL GET RIGHT DOWN TO SEE CAPTAIN FLINT AND HAND OVER MY TREASURY CREDENTIALS. NOBODY KNOWS I'M COMING EXCEPT ALDERMAN HUNT....
WHAT THE...?
HEY! WHAT A SWEET WELCOME...!
RAT-A-TAT-TAT-TAT BLAM!
GOT OFF CHEAP...JUST A CREASE ON MY SHOULDER! LOOKS LIKE I'M EXPECTED! EVEN THOUGH ONLY ONE MAN IN TOWN WAS SUPPOSED TO KNOW ABOUT THIS MISSION!
FEEL LIKE A TARGET IN A SHOOTING-GALLERY! WONDER IF CAPTAIN FLINT KNOWS ABOUT THE NAUGHTY BOYS HE'S GOT ROAMING AROUND HIS TOWN?
GRAND CITY POLICE HEADQUARTERS
GLAD TO MEET YOU, ALDERMAN HUNT. AND THIS IS....?
CAPTAIN FLINT... IN CHARGE OF NARCOTICS! HE CAN GIVE YOU THE BACKGROUND YOU'LL NEED.

....AND THAT'S IT! WE HAVEN'T MADE ANY HEADWAY AT FINDING OUT WHO THE BOSS IS...OR HOW THEY'RE ABLE TO GET THE STUFF INTO THE CITY FROM THE DOCKS!
I GUESS THAT'S WHERE I COME IN, BOYS! THINK YOU CAN FLOAT THE WORD AROUND TOWN THAT I'M AN OPIUM DEALER IN FROM THE EAST.. AND ANXIOUS TO MAKE A BIG PURCHASE?
SURE CAN! JUST DROP THE WORD TO ONE OF THE UNDERWORLD STOOLIES...LET'S SEE....WHO...?
HOW ABOUT ANNA LIPP... SHE'S GOT PLENTY OF CONTACTS?
AND SO, AT TEN O'CLOCK THAT NIGHT...
THIS MUST BE THE GIN MILL.... AND I GUESS THAT'S THE LITTLE LADY DOWN THE OTHER END, GULPING THAT PANTHER JUICE!
SILVER DOLLAR BAR
NAME'S ACE...JACK ACE. YOU MUST BE...?
THE DAME YER LOOKIN' FER, MISTER ACE! LET'S GO IN TH' BACK ROOM.
IF YER LOOKIN' FER DOPE T' BUY, MISTER ACE....
YOU'LL GET IT, BUB!
AWRIGHT, GET 'IM TAPED UP...WE GOTTA GET 'IM OUTTA HERE! THE BOSS WAITIN'!

D-4

OKAY, MISTER *CRANE*...YOU'VE BEEN TAKING A BEAUTY NAP LONG ENOUGH! EITHER YOU TAKE A POWDER AND DROP THIS SNOOPING...OR *ELSE*! WHATTA YOU SAY?
ONLY THIS....'TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS AND ALL THROUGH THE HOUSE....
PRETTY FRESH, AIN'T YA? MAYBE *THIS'LL* SHUT YOUR SASSY MOUTH!
GET THE CAR READY...MR. CRANE'S GOING ON A LONG RIDE! HIS *LAST* ONE!
COO! COO! COO!
HE MUST HAVE SCRAMBLED MY BRAINS...I SWEAR I HEAR BIRDIES SINGING OUTSIDE!
WHOOO-WHOOOO!
CAN'T BUST THESE ROPES! WHA....NOW I HEAR FOG HORNS! MUST BE IN A BAD WAY!
I WONDER WHERE THIS LITTLE DREAM PALACE IS LOCATED? OR IF I'LL EVER SEE IT AGAIN!
AWRIGHT, UP ON YER FEET, SLEEPIN' BEAUTY! WE GOT A TRIP AHEAD OF US.
4

P/C

AFTER YOU, YER HIGH-NESS!
LOOKS LIKE THE OLD CAPONE TREATMENT FOR ME!
MAKES DA SOFTEST RUG I EVER SEEN!
I HEAR TRAFFIC... MUST BE IN THE CENTER OF TOWN! IF I CAN ONLY....
...UPSET THEIR SCHEDULE, THESE PALOOKAS WON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO!
HEY! WHAT THE....?
GOTTA GET THAT DOOR-KNOB...MY ONLY CHANCE!
GET YER FOOT OUTTA MY FACE! HE'S TRYIN' TO....OOOF!
MADE IT! I HOPE THESE OTHER CARS HAVE BRAKES THAT HOLD!
HE'S OUT! LET 'IM HAVE IT!
EAT BEANS THEY'RE GOOD FOR YOU
LET'S AMSCRAY... HERE COMES A JOHN BULL!
I'M STILL BREATHING... GUESS THEY MISSED!
RESTAURANT
FIFTEEN MINUTES LATER....
I-IT'S....CRANE! WE THOUGHT WE LOST YOU, KIRK!
WE'VE HAD A TWO-ALARM SEARCH OUT FOR YOU ALL NIGHT!
5

D-6

HE...HE'S PASSED OUT COLD! WE BETTER GET HIM TO A HOSPITAL...LOOKS LIKE HE'S TAKEN QUITE A BEATING!
GOT A BETTER IDEA... I'LL TAKE HIM TO *MY* PLACE IN THE COUNTRY!
WE'LL BUNDLE HIM UP AND I'LL TAKE HIM HOME. GUESS THIS CASE IS TOO MUCH FOR HIM! HE BETTER LAY OFF...IF HE LIKES HIS HEALTH!
NEXT MORNING....
QUITE A LAYOUT ALDERMAN HUNT'S GOT HERE! PLENTY OF BEES...AND...*BIRDS!*
MAYBE *I'M* CUCKOO, BUT THEY LOOK LIKE PIGEONS TO ME! *HOMING* PIGEONS!
METAL CONTAINER...LIKE THE ARMY USED TO SEND MESSAGES BY PIGEONS! I WONDER....?
LOOKS...LIKE.... *OPIUM!*
FIND WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR, CRANE? BETTER MAKE ONE LAST WISH....
HERE'S *OPIUM* IN YOUR EYE, HUNT!
W-WHA....*OOF!*
6

D-7

GUESS YOU'RE OUT OF CONDITION FOR THIS KIND OF HORSING-AROUND!
UGHHH! TRIGGER... LEFTY...BOYS! HELP!

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? CRANE... YOU'RE SAFE!
BUT I DON'T THINK MISTER HUNT FEELS SO WELL!

JUST PASSED BY TO SEE HOW YOU WERE...AND WHO DO I MEET IN THE ALDERMAN'S HOUSE BUT THIS GANG OF CUT-THROATS?
THINK THIS ROUNDS UP THE GANG!

THOSE BIRDS COOING AND THE SOUNDS OF BOATS GAVE ME THE IDEA OF HOW THE DRUGS WERE BEING BROUGHT INTO TOWN...BEING FLOWN BY PIGEONS!

SUSPICIOUS OF HUNT BECAUSE HE WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO KNEW I WAS ARRIVING TO SNOOP FOR THE T-MEN...AND HE TRIED TO BUMP ME OFF RIGHT AWAY!

AND THE PIGEONS HERE... PLUS THIS LITTLE DEATH'S HEAD...WAS ALL THE PROOF I NEEDED!

THAT TIES IT UP...THE DEATH'S HEAD RING IS UNDER CONTROL!
-THE- -END-

MOON GIRL
and The Prince
THROUGH THE LEGEND-HAUNTED HILLS OF SEASIDE KNOLL, THE SCREAM OF THE WEREWOLF, THE CHITTER OF THE VAMPIRE, THE MUMBLINGS OF THE LONG-DEAD ONCE MORE RESOUND WITH BLOOD-FREEZING FRENZY! THE BLACK ARTS ARE ALIVE, SEEKING SACRIFICE AND VICTIM! AND LOVELY, WICKED LURANI IS FIT MISTRESS TO THE EVIL THINGS THAT RUN LOOSE IN THE NIGHT...
TO SEASIDE KNOLL COMES MOON GIRL TO STUDY MARINE LIFE AS THE PRINCE SWIMS AND FISHES. AND HER VERY FIRST SPECIMEN OF OCEAN DWELLER PUTS HER ON THE TRAIL OF...
THE WITCH OF THE HAUNTED HILLS!

FEET TRAMPLE IN TERROR-STRICKEN HASTE THROUGH THE UNDERBRUSH! A SCREAM GURGLES IN A MAN'S THROAT! AND THE EAGER, HUNGRY WHINE OF A HUNTING WOLF SWELLS TO A SNARL—
NO... NO...-SOB- GO.. GO 'WAY...
AAAAGGGH!
FOR ONE INCREDIBLE MOMENT, THE FACE OF THE WOLF DISSOLVES
YOU'RE NOT A REAL WOLF. YOU'RE A WEREWOLF! I KNOW YOU—MABELENE!
NO USE... CAN'T STRUGGLE...
HIGH IN THE HILLS, ON THE PARAPET OF A RUINED OLD CASTLE—
MABELINE ■ HAVING GOOD HUNTING TO-NIGHT. OUR SACRIFICE TO THE MOON-GOD WILL BE YOUNG AND—HANDSOME!
THEN I SHALL HAVE WEALTH AND POWER! WITH MY CREATURES OF THE NETHER REGIONS TO BE MY SLAVES, THERE IS NOTHING IN THE WORLD TO STOP—LURANI!
FAR BELOW THE HILLS, ■ THE LITTLE HARBOR TOWN OF SEASIDE KNOLL, A WIDE-EYED CLAIRE LUNE STARES INTO THE NIGHT—
I WAS SURE THAT WAS A MAN'S SCREAM OF FRIGHT. BUT I MUST BE IMAGINING THINGS. I'D BETTER GET SOME REST... THE PRINCE WANTS ME TO GO FISHING EARLY IN THE MORNING...
2

NEXT MORNING—
I DON'T SEE HOW YOU CAN SIT THERE IN THIS HOT SUN. I'M GOING FOR A WIM!
BE CAREFUL. ONCE IN A WHILE A SHARK COMES THIS FAR NORTH!
I'LL WATCH OUT!
BUT IN THE COOL GREEN OCEAN DEPTHS, CLAIRE LUNE COMES FACE TO FACE— NOT WITH A SHARK, BUT WITH A— MERMAID!
I...I DON'T BELIEVE IT!
SHE WAS CARRYING A BOX.... ATTACKING ME BECAUSE I'VE SEEN IT... SHE'S GOING TO KI-KILL ME!
WHY DIDN'T I PUT MY MOONSTONE ABOUT MY NECK? MY LUNGS... ON FIRE! CAN'T BREATHE! SHE'S SHOVING ME... INTO THESE ROCKS... TO TRAP ME...
INERT AND LIFELESS, CLAIRE LUNE LIES NEAR DEATH, WEDGED IN AMONG THE ROCKS....
CLAIRE'S BEEN DOWN THERE TOO LONG. I'D BETTER SEE WHAT HAPPENED....

LATER...
IT'S FANTASTIC... BUT I WAS FIGHTING WITH A MERMAID!
SHE'S DELIRIOUS! I'D BETTER GET HER TO BED SO SHE CAN REST!
A MERMAID? IT DOESN'T SURPRISE ME. THERE'S BEEN STRANGE GOINGS-ON ■ THESE HILLS. MEN AND WOMEN DISAPPEAR! WOLVES AND... OTHER THINGS... SEEN IN THE DARK! BRRR...
MOON GIRL OUGHT TO INVESTIGATE JUST WHAT IS HAPPENING AROUND HERE. IF MEN AND WOMEN DISAPPEAR ... I WANT TO KNOW WHY!
THAT NIGHT, AS THE FULL MOON RISES...
MERMAIDS! WERE-WOLVES! VAMPIRES! BRRR... IT'S LIKE A PAGE OUT OF A HORROR TALE, BUT WITH MY MOONSTONE... I'LL FIND OUT THE TRUTH!
MAGIC MOONSTONE, GIVE ME SPEED AND STRENGTH TO FIGHT THE EVIL IN THESE HILLS!
BENEATH THE STONE VAULTS OF THE CASTLE ■ THE HILLS, A STRANGE FORM LIFTS FROM THE COLD WATERS OF AN UNDERGROUND RIVER...
YOU BROUGHT THE CASKET OF GOLD, AS YOU PROMISED!
GOLD AND PRECIOUS GEMS! NOW WE CAN CONTINUE OUR RESEARCHES INTO BLACK MAGIC. YOU'VE DONE WELL, UNDINA!

WITH MAGIC CHANT AND FORBIDDEN INCENSE, LURANI THE WITCH CONJURES UP THE SPIRITS OF THE DEAD!
BY VAU AND CHETH, BY ARAZEAL AND SHIN, I SUMMON YOU TO APPEAR AND ADVISE ME!

TO SECURE THE POWERS OF THE MOON-GOD, YOU MUST OFFER HIM A LIVING SACRIFICE! HE DEMANDS THE WARM RED BLOOD OF LIFE TO MAKE HIM RESPOND!

MABELENE! I SUMMON YOU TO AWAKE! IT IS LURANI WHO CALLS!

YOU MUST HUNT IN THE WOODS AGAIN! FIND A LIVING PERSON. BRING HIM BACK TO ME... FOR SACRIFICE!
I HEAR. I WILL OBEY.

GO! AND BRING BACK — A VICTIM!

SOMEWHERE AROUND HERE I OUGHT TO FIND A CLUE THAT WILL HELP ME SOLVE THE MYSTERY.

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P28

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P24

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